

CLAIMS

1. A conditional decision device (20) for the execution of services (11) received via a communication network (6), said received services (11) having predetermined life spans, said device (20) comprising:

- a module (21) for receiving information (12) associated with said services (11), provided to receive said information (12) prior to the execution of said associated services (11),
- a module (22) for identifying, from said information (12) received, information concerning computer programs required to execute said services (11) associated with said information (12),
- a module (23) for checking the local availability of said identified computer programs,
- and a selective decision module for the execution (24) of services, provided to allow the execution of said services (11) if said computer programs required for said services (11) are available locally, characterized in that said device (20) also comprises:
- a module (26) for acquiring computer programs, capable of triggering a download of said computer programs (13) required for said services (11) if said computer programs are not available locally,
- and an automatic selective decision module for acquiring (25) computer programs, capable of allowing and preventing the downloading of said computer programs (13) required for said services (11) and not available locally, at least according to said information (12) associated with said services (11).

2. The conditional execution decision device (20) as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that since said information (12) associated with said services (11) includes temporal information relating to the validity of execution of said services (11), the selective acquisition decision module (25) is capable of allowing and preventing said downloading at least according to said temporal information.

3. The conditional execution decision device (20) as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the selective acquisition decision module (25) is designed to allow said downloading if said downloading is expected to be completed before predefined instants of said services (11), extractable from said temporal information, and to prevent said downloading

otherwise.

4. The conditional execution decision device (20) as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that said predefined instants specify ends of validity of execution of said services (11).
5. The conditional execution decision device (20) as claimed in one of claims 3 or 4, characterized in that said predefined instants specify starts of validity of execution of said services (11).
- 10 6. The conditional execution decision device (20) as claimed in any one of claims 3 to 5, characterized in that the selective acquisition decision module (25) is capable of acquiring downloading times of said computer programs (13) required and not available locally, and thus of estimating when said downloading is expected to be completed.
- 15 7. The conditional execution decision device (20) as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that since said information (12) associated with said services (11) includes at least one forced downloading indicator having an activated value and a deactivated value, said selective acquisition decision module (25) is designed to forcibly allow said downloading if said forced downloading indicator has the activated value.
- 20 8. The conditional execution decision device (20) as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it also comprises a module (28) for acquiring sizes (14) of said computer programs (13) required and not available locally and the selective acquisition decision module (25) is capable of allowing and preventing said downloading also according to said sizes (14).
- 25 9. The conditional execution decision device (20) as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the selective acquisition decision module (25) is designed to estimate downloading times of said computer programs (13) required and not available locally according to said sizes (14) and local reception capabilities (15) for said computer programs (13), and to allow said downloading when said downloading allows an at least partial subsequent execution of said services (11).

10. The conditional execution decision device (20) as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that since said services (11) include messages (61, 81) of announcement of services (11) and contents (62), the reception module (21) is designed to receive said information (12) associated with said services (11), in said announcement messages (61, 81) of services (11) and the information identification module (22) is designed to extract said information from said service announcement messages (61, 81).

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11. A conditional decision method for the execution of services (11) received via a communication network (6), said received services (11) having predetermined life spans, said method comprising:

- a step for the reception (41) of information (12) associated with said services (11) prior to the execution of said services (11),
- a step (42) for identifying, from said received information (12), information concerning computer programs required for the execution of said services (11) associated with said information (12),
- a step (43) for checking the local availability of said identified computer programs,
- and a selective decision step for the execution (43, 45) of services, in which an execution of said services (11) is allowed if said computer programs required for said services (11) are available locally, characterized in that said method also comprises:

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- a step (46) for acquiring computer programs, by downloading said computer programs (13) required for said services (11) if said computer programs are not available locally,
- and a selective decision step for automatically acquiring (45) computer programs, in which a decision is made to enable or prevent the downloading of said computer programs (13) required for said services (11) and not available locally, at least according to said information (12) associated with said services (11),

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said method being preferably designed to be implemented using a conditional execution decision device (20) as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10.

12. A device (3) for compiling information messages (12) associated with services (11), said messages being intended for transmission to users (2) before execution of said associated services (11), said device (3)

including means (31) of incorporating in said messages (12) information concerning computer programs required for the execution of said services (11),

5 characterized in that said incorporation means (31) are designed to include in said information at least one forced downloading indicator having an activated value and a deactivated value, said indicator being designed to forcibly allow the downloading of said computer programs required if said indicator has the activated value,

10 said message compilation device (3) being preferably designed to produce messages intended for a conditional execution decision device (20) as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10.

13. A method of compiling information messages (12) associated with services (11), said messages being intended for transmission to users (2) before execution of said associated services (11), said method including a step for incorporating in said messages (12), information concerning computer programs required for the execution of said services (11),

15 characterized in that on said incorporation step, at least one forced downloading indicator having an activated value and a deactivated value is included in said information, said indicator being intended to forcibly allow the downloading of said computer programs required if said indicator has the activated value,

20 said message compilation method being preferably implemented using a message compilation device (3) as claimed in claim 12.

25 14. A computer program product comprising program code instructions for the execution of the steps of the method as claimed in one of claims 11 or 13 when said program is run on a computer.

30 15. A control information message (12) containing information intended to be utilized automatically by at least one receiver (2) and associated with at least one service (11), said message (12) being designed to be transmitted to said receiver (2) before an execution of said service (11), and including information concerning at least one computer program required for the execution of said service,

35 characterized in that said information includes at least one forced downloading indicator having an activated value and a deactivated value, said indicator being intended to forcibly allow the downloading of said

computer program required if said indicator has the activated value,
said control information message (12) being preferably intended to be
produced by a message compilation device (3) as claimed in claim 12.

5 16. A decoder, characterized in that it comprises a conditional execution
decision device (20) as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10.